

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.
2. Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Dicran Halajian on 4/2/2008.
3. The application has been amended as follows (referring to amendments submitted on 1/30/2008):

- a. Claims 1, 7 and 8 have been amended as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A suction attachment for a vacuum cleaner comprising:

- a suction nozzle;

- a coupling member for coupling the suction attachment to a suction channel of the vacuum cleaner, said coupling member being pivotable relative to the suction nozzle about a pivot axis extending substantially perpendicularly to a main displacement direction of the suction member longitudinal axis of the coupling member;

- a first brush and a second brush extending near, respectively, a front edge and a rear edge of the suction nozzle;

- an adjustment mechanism for adjusting the first brush and the second brush from a first position, in which the first brush and the second

brush are in a retracted position relative to a bottom surface of the suction nozzle, into a second position, in which the first brush and the second brush are in a protruding position relative to said bottom surface;

a rolling member configured for rolling ~~in the main displacement direction~~ and arranged near said pivot axis in such a position that, during operation, said rolling member extends below the first and second brush when the first and the second brush are in said first position, and said first and second brush extend below the rolling member when the first and the second brush are in said second position, wherein said pivot axis is arranged between the first brush and at least a portion of the second brush; and

a blocking mechanism which cooperates with the adjustment mechanism and which blocks the suction nozzle in a blocked position relative to a central portion of the suction attachment when the first brush and the second brush are in the second position.

7. (Currently Amended) A vacuum cleaner comprising:

a housing,

an electrical suction unit accommodated in said housing,

a suction channel, and

a suction attachment configured to be coupled to the suction unit via the suction channel, wherein the suction attachment comprises:

a suction nozzle;

a coupling member for coupling the suction attachment to a suction channel of the vacuum cleaner, said coupling member being pivotable relative to the suction nozzle about a pivot axis extending substantially perpendicularly to a main displacement direction of the suction member longitudinal axis of the coupling member;

a first brush and a second brush extending near, respectively, a front edge and a rear edge of the suction nozzle;

an adjustment mechanism for adjusting the first brush and the second brush from a first position, in which the first brush and the second brush are in a retracted position relative to a bottom surface of the suction nozzle, into a second position, in which the first brush and the second brush are in a protruding position relative to said bottom surface;

a rolling member configured for rolling ~~in the main displacement direction and~~ arranged near said pivot axis in such a position that, during operation, said rolling member extends below the first and second brush when the first and the second brush are in said first position, and said first and second brush extend below the rolling member when the first and the second brush are in said second position, wherein said pivot axis is arranged between the first brush and at least a portion of the second brush; and

a blocking mechanism which cooperates with the adjustment mechanism and which blocks the suction nozzle in a blocking position relative to ~~the~~ a central portion of the suction attachment when the first brush and the second brush are in the second position.

8. (Currently Amended) A suction attachment for a vacuum cleaner comprising:

a suction nozzle;

a suction channel connected to the suction nozzle by a coupler, the coupler being pivotable about a pivot axis;

a front brush extending near a front edge of the suction nozzle, and a rear brush extending near a rear edge of the suction nozzle, ~~wherein~~ [;]

an adjustment mechanism for adjusting the front brush and the rear brush ~~are in~~ from a retracted position relative to a bottom surface of the suction nozzle in a first position, ~~and are in~~ to a protruding position relative to the bottom surface in a second position;

~~at least one roller arranged near the pivot axis, wherein the pivot axis is arranged between the front brush and at least a portion of the rear brush; and~~

~~a blocking mechanism configured to block the suction nozzle when the first and the second brush are in the protruding position~~

a rolling member configured for rolling and arranged near said pivot axis in such a position that, during operation, said rolling member extends below the front brush and the rear brush when the front brush and the rear brush are in said first position, and the front brush and the rear brush extend below the rolling member when the front brush and the rear brush are in said second position, wherein said pivot axis is arranged between the front brush and at least a portion of the rear brush; and

a blocking mechanism which cooperates with the adjustment mechanism and which blocks the suction nozzle in a blocked position relative to a central portion of the suction attachment when the front brush and the rear brush are in the second position.

- b. The limitation “, seen in the main displacement direction” has been deleted from line 5 of claim 2.
 - c. The limitation “at least one roller” in lines 1-2 of claims 10 and 11 has been replaced by the limitation “rolling member” in both of claims 10 and 11.
 - d. The word “a” in line 2 of claim 11 has been replaced with the word “the”.
 - e. The word “**NEW**” has been deleted from the title of the Abstract section submitted on 1/30/2008.
4. The following is an examiner’s statement of reasons for allowance: the prior art of record (considered as a whole) neither anticipates nor renders obvious a suction

Art Unit: 3723

attachment for a vacuum cleaner (or a vacuum cleaner having a suction attachment) comprising a suction nozzle, a front brush extending near a front edge of the suction nozzle, and a rear brush extending near a rear edge of the suction nozzle, an adjustment mechanism for adjusting the front brush and the rear brush from a first position to a second position and a blocking mechanism which cooperates with the adjustment mechanism and which blocks the suction nozzle in a blocked position relative to a central portion of the suction attachment when the front brush and the rear brush are in the second position in combination with the rest of the limitations set forth in the independent claims.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to BRYAN R. MULLER whose telephone number is (571)272-4489. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday thru Thursday and second Fridays.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Joseph J. Hail III can be reached on (571) 272-4485. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Art Unit: 3723

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/B. R. M./
Examiner, Art Unit 3723
4/8/2008

/Joseph J. Hail, III/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 3723